

Media Release
United States Courts for the Ninth Circuit

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**Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals Appoints
Attorney Sheri Bluebond to Bankruptcy Bench
for Central District of California**

LOS ANGELES — Chief Judge Mary M. Schroeder of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit has announced the appointment of Sheri Bluebond to the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Central District of California, effective February 1, 2001. She will replace Bankruptcy Judge Lisa Hill Fenning, who resigned to accept a position in the private sector. Judge Bluebond's 14-year term will expire in 2015. She plans to maintain chambers in Los Angeles.

Prior to her appointment, Judge Bluebond engaged in private practice, specializing in bankruptcy law. She was a partner in the Los Angeles law firm of Irell & Manella LLP (1995 to present), and had been associated previously with the law firms of Murphy, Weir & Butler (1991-95) and Gendel, Raskoff, Shapiro & Quittner (1983-91), both of Los Angeles. An alumnus of the University of California at Los Angeles, Judge Bluebond earned her undergraduate degree in 1982, graduating summa cum laude, and her J.D. in 1985, finishing first in her class and serving on the Law Review.

Judge Bluebond is associated with various bankruptcy law organizations. She is the current chair Bankruptcy Committee and a member of the executive committee of the Commercial Law and Bankruptcy Section of the Los Angeles County Bar Association; the secretary of the Southern California chapter of the Turnaround Management Association; and a former member of the boards of governors of the Financial Lawyers Conference and Los Angeles Bankruptcy Forum. She also is a trustee and current vice-president of the Jewish Big Brothers/Camp Max Straus.

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Judge Bluebond has written a number of bankruptcy-related articles in legal publications, most recently “To File or Not to File,” *American Bar Association Journal* (July 1999) and “Assessing the Usefulness of Chapter 11 Filing,” *Business Workouts Manual* (Supp. 1999).

The judges of the United States Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit are charged with the statutory responsibility for selecting and appointing the 68 bankruptcy judges in the nine western states that comprise the Ninth Circuit. The court uses a comprehensive merit selection process for the initial appointment and for the reappointment of bankruptcy judges. Bankruptcy judges serve a 14-year, renewable term at a salary of \$133,492, and handle all bankruptcy-related matters under the Bankruptcy Code.

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